

Delta Independent Science Board Educational Briefing Questionnaire

Please provide short written responses to the following:

1. **Program Title:** Aquatic Invasive Species Program (AISP)
2. **Lead Agency/Department for Program:** The Branch of Aquatic Invasive Species, part of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's (Service) Fisheries Program office in Washington D.C., leads the Service's AISP. The AISP provides funding for AIS Coordinators for each Region within the Service and their respective AIS activities.
3. **Brief Description of Program:** Located at the Stockton Fish and Wildlife Office, the Service's Pacific Southwest Region AISP works with the public, watershed groups, state and local agencies and private sector to develop and implement invasive species projects and conduct activities to prevent, control and manage AIS within California, Nevada, and the Klamath Basin. Though focused on AIS, the Program provides technical assistance for terrestrial invasive species within the San Francisco Bay Delta as well.
4. **Purpose and Objectives of Program:** The Stockton AISP is dedicated to providing technical expertise and support to activities focused on preventing new AIS introductions and managing those already established within the Service's Pacific Southwest Region.
5. **Timeline for Program Objectives:** On going.
6. **Current Status of Program:** Projects and activities include outreach, control, research, and eradication efforts for a variety of terrestrial and aquatic invasive species. Species of concern include Chinese mitten crab (*Eriocheir sinensis*), marine algae (*Caulerpa* spp.) and giant cane (*Arundo donax*). A national control and management plan for New Zealand mudsnail (*Potamopyrgus antipodarum*) is under development. The national outreach campaign to prevent the spread of zebra and quagga mussel (*Dreissena* spp.) and other aquatic invasive species is also a high priority
7. **Contact Information for Lead Staff of this Program:**

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Title	Regional Program Coordinator
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8. **Associated Total Annual Budget for Program:** 2011 - \$380,000
9. **URL, if a Website is Available:** <http://www.fws.gov/stockton/>
10. **How does adaptive management play a role in your program?** Predicting the outcome of invasive species management and control is difficult given that the current level of experience and knowledge is based on a relatively short history of invasive species management. Taking an adaptive approach to managing invasives provides the most likely chances of success in controlling these organisms. Invasive species management planning is built upon a framework that takes into account a myriad of considerations—from operating under policies and laws, to working with adjacent landowners, to selecting control methods that are effective in a particular environment. Planning is an ongoing process that is adjusted or refined by assessing new information until invasive species management objectives are achieved.

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11. **Any additional information that would be helpful to understand the program:** See the Service's AISP URL: <http://www.fws.gov/fisheries/ans/>

Thank you very much for taking the time to respond to this questionnaire. Please return your completed questionnaire to Gina Ford (gina.ford@deltacouncil.ca.gov) no later than October 6, 2011.